

HOUSE No. 1468

By Mr. Dempsey of Haverhill, petition of Brian S. Dempsey for legislation to further regulate the issuance of death certificates. Community Development and Small Business.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT FURTHER REGULATING THE ISSUANCE OF DEATH CERTIFICATES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Section 9 of chapter 46 of the General Laws, as amended by
2 section 1 of chapter 120 of the Acts of 2004, is hereby further
3 amended by adding the following paragraph:—
4 The employers of a registered professional nurse, nurse practi-
5 tioner or any other person authorized under this section to declare
6 a person dead shall within 16 hours of death deliver to the funeral
7 director responsible for the funeral arrangements of the deceased,
8 a properly completed certificate of death which shall contain the
9 signature of the attending or certifying physician. Whoever fails
10 to comply with the provisions of this paragraph shall be punished
11 by a fine of \$1,000 or may be subject to suspension of license to
12 practice, issued under the provisions of chapter 112, for a record
13 of not more than 30 day, or both.